

Next morning I went to the spot and found a big bull bison lying dead with his fore-legs entangled in a big climber which hung between two large trees. The hat and enumeration book of the field assistant were just by the side of the bison's head. The only reconstruction I could make of the bison's death was, that while charging towards the field assistant the climber caught in his fore-legs causing him to fall on his head and break his neck. Death appears to have been instantaneous. The Naga labourers told me that they saw the bison facing the babu and they ran, and when they returned they found both the bison and the babu lying side by side!

The field assistant was not hurt at all though he did not recover from the shock for several days. He actually had high fever and was in a delirious state for a number of days. The Naga labourers ate the bison meat and brought the head to camp. The head was shown to the Conservator, when he visited the area later.

JORHAT,  
ASSAM,  
April 1950.

L. RYNJAH,  
*Asst. Conservator of Forests.*

#### 7. A DOE CHEETAL WITH HORNS

My cousin, Rajkumar Dharampal Singh of Awagarh, and I had jointly taken three blocks in South Bastar Division (Bastar State) for a month. We were encamped in the capital of Kutru Zamindari itself and decided to go out for a spin in our car. It was 5.30 p.m. in the evening and we had proceeded about ten miles on the Bijapur road, when we spotted a herd of five cheetal about 200 yards away. One among them seemed to carry a good pair of horns. As we stalked them, the herd receded further in, but the Rajkumar of Awagarh ultimately put in a long shot and bagged the cheetal with horns—the only one in the herd which carried a pair. On reaching the dead animal we found to our disappointment that the horns were not as big as expected and measured only  $29\frac{1}{2}$  inches. But scrutiny of the carcass revealed a very interesting fact. The male sex organs were missing, while the mammae along with all the female sex organs were present. I further cut open the cheetal, and found that it also had an ovary and all the other internal organs of a normal female. It was in fact a doe cheetal with horns measuring  $29\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The animal was shot in the Toyanar Block of Kutru Range in South Bastar Division near Gudma village. On hearing of my rare experience the local villagers informed me that some years back a Muria Gond had also killed a doe sambar with horns, but I cannot say how far this report is correct. I have, so far, met no sportsman who has ever told me of such an experience.

P. O. DHARAMJAYGARH,  
VIA KHARSIA, B.N. RY.  
29th June, 1950.

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